Amendments to the Claims:

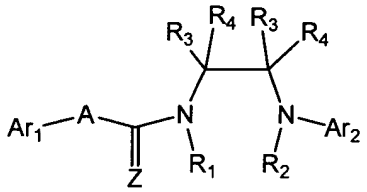
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-185 (cancelled)

Claim 186 (previously presented) A method according to claim 201, where the pain is the result of exposure to capsaicin, exposure to heat, exposure to light, exposure to tear gas, hot peppers or pepper spray, or exposure to acid.

187. (previously presented) The method of claim 186 wherein the capsaicin receptor antagonist is a compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein:

A is absent or is selected from O, S, NR_A, CR_BR_B', $NR_ACR_BR_B'$, $CR_BR_B'NR_A$, $-CR_A=CR_B-$ and C_3H_4; wherein R_A, R_B and R_B' are independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and alkyl;

Z is oxygen or sulfur;

R_1 and R_2 independently represent hydrogen or alkyl;

R_3 and R_4 are independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen; halogen; hydroxy; amino; cyano; nitro; -COOH; -CHO, optionally substituted alkyl; optionally substituted alkenyl; optionally substituted alkynyl; optionally

substituted alkoxy; optionally substituted mono or dialkylamino; optionally substituted alkylthio; optionally substituted alkyl ketone; optionally substituted alkylester; optionally substituted alkylsulfinyl; optionally substituted alkylsulfonyl; optionally substituted mono- or di-alkylcarboxamide; optionally substituted $-S(O)_nNHalkyl$; optionally substituted $-S(O)_nN(alkyl)(alkyl)$; optionally substituted $-NHC(=O)alkyl$; optionally substituted $-NC(=O)(alkyl)(alkyl)$; optionally substituted $-NHS(O)_nalkyl$; optionally substituted $-NS(O)_n(alkyl)(alkyl)$; optionally substituted saturated or partially unsaturated heterocycloalkyl of from 5 to 8 atoms, which saturated or partially unsaturated heterocycloalkyl contains 1, 2, or 3 heteroatoms independently selected from N, O, and S; optionally substituted aryl having from 1 to 3 rings; and optionally substituted heteroaryl having from 1 to 3 rings, 5 to 8 ring members in each ring and, in at least one of said rings, from 1 to about 3 heteroatoms independently selected from N, O, and S;

or any two R_3 and R_4 not attached to the same carbon are taken together to form an optionally substituted aryl ring; an optionally substituted, saturated or partially unsaturated carbocyclic ring of from 5 to 8 members; or an optionally substituted, saturated, partially unsaturated or aromatic heterocyclic ring of from 5 to 8 members that contains 1, 2, or 3 heteroatoms independently selected from N, O, and S; and

Ar_1 and Ar_2 are the same or different and independently represent optionally substituted cycloalkyl; an optionally substituted heterocycloalkyl ring of from 5 to 8 atoms that contains 1, 2 or 3 heteroatoms independently selected from

N, O, and S; optionally substituted aryl having from 1 to 3 rings; or optionally substituted heteroaryl having from 1 to 3 rings, 5 to 8 ring members in each ring and, in at least one of said rings, from 1 to about 3 heteroatoms independently selected from N, O and S, and

n is independently chosen at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2.

Claims 188-198 (cancelled)

Claim 199 (previously presented) A method according to claim 186, wherein the capsaicin receptor antagonist exhibits no detectable agonist activity in an *in vitro* assay of capsaicin receptor agonism.

Claim 200 (currently amended) A method according to claim 186, wherein a dose of the capsaicin receptor antagonist that is five times the minimum dose needed to provide analgesia in an adult mammalian laboratory animal, in an animal model for determining pain relief, does not cause sedation when administered to an adult mammalian laboratory animal in an animal model assay of sedation, wherein the same species is used in assessing analgesia and sedation.

Claim 201 (previously presented) A method for treating pain in a mammal, the method comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutic dose of a capsaicin receptor antagonist that is not a capsaicin analogue.

Claim 202 (previously presented) A method according to claim 201, wherein the capsaicin receptor antagonist is a high potency capsaicin receptor antagonist in an *in vitro* assay of capsaicin receptor antagonism.

Claim 203 (previously presented) A method according to claim 201, wherein the capsaicin receptor antagonist exhibits no detectable agonist activity in an *in vitro* assay of capsaicin receptor agonism.

Claim 204 (currently amended) A method according to claim 201, wherein a dose of the capsaicin receptor antagonist that is five times the minimum dose needed to provide analgesia in an adult mammalian laboratory animal, in an animal model for determining pain relief, does not cause sedation when administered to an adult mammalian laboratory animal in an animal model assay of sedation, wherein the same species is used in assessing analgesia and sedation.

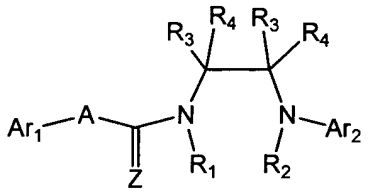
Claim 205 (previously presented) A method according to claim 201, wherein the pain is neuropathic pain.

Claim 206 (previously presented) A method according to claim 201, wherein the pain is peripheral nerve-mediated pain.

Claim 207 (previously presented) A method according to claim 201, wherein the pain is associated with a condition selected from postmastectomy pain syndrome, stump pain, phantom limb pain, oral neuropathic pain, Charcot's pain, toothache, venomous snake bite, spider bite, insect sting, postherpetic neuralgia, diabetic neuropathy, reflex sympathetic dystrophy, trigeminal neuralgia, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, fibromyalgia, Guillain-Barre syndrome, meralgia paresthetica, burning-mouth syndrome, bilateral peripheral neuropathy, causalgia, sciatic neuritis, peripheral neuritis, polyneuritis, optic neuritis, postfebrile neuritis, migrating neuritis, segmental neuritis,

Gombault's neuritis, neuronitis, cervicobrachial neuralgia, cranial neuralgia, geniculate neuralgia, glossopharyngial neuralgia, migranous neuralgia, idiopathic neuralgia, intercostals neuralgia, mammary neuralgia, mandibular joint neuralgia, Morton's neuralgia, nasociliary neuralgia, occipital neuralgia, red neuralgia, Sluder's neuralgia, splenopalatine neuralgia, supraorbital neuralgia, vidian neuralgia, sinus headache, tension headache, migraine headache, labor, childbirth, intestinal gas, menstruation, cancer, and trauma.

Claim 208 (previously presented) A method according to claim 201 wherein the capsaicin receptor antagonist is compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein:

A is absent or is selected from O, S, NR_A, CR_BR_B', $NR_ACR_BR_B'$, $CR_BR_B'NR_A$, $-CR_A=CR_B-$ and C_3H_4; wherein R_A, R_B and R_B' are independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and alkyl;

Z is oxygen or sulfur;

R_1 and R_2 independently represent hydrogen or alkyl;

R_3 and R_4 are independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen; halogen; hydroxy; amino; cyano; nitro; -COOH; -CHO, optionally substituted alkyl; optionally substituted alkenyl; optionally substituted alkynyl; optionally substituted alkoxy; optionally substituted mono or dialkylamino; optionally substituted alkylthio; optionally substituted alkyl ketone; optionally substituted

alkylester; optionally substituted alkylsulfinyl; optionally substituted alkylsulfonyl; optionally substituted mono- or di-alkylcarboxamide; optionally substituted $-S(O)_nNHalkyl$; optionally substituted $-S(O)_nN(alkyl)(alkyl)$; optionally substituted $-NHC(=O)alkyl$; optionally substituted $-NC(=O)(alkyl)(alkyl)$; optionally substituted $-NHS(O)_nalkyl$; optionally substituted $-NS(O)_n(alkyl)(alkyl)$; optionally substituted saturated or partially unsaturated heterocycloalkyl of from 5 to 8 atoms, which saturated or partially unsaturated heterocycloalkyl contains 1, 2, or 3 heteroatoms independently selected from N, O, and S; optionally substituted aryl having from 1 to 3 rings; and optionally substituted heteroaryl having from 1 to 3 rings, 5 to 8 ring members in each ring and, in at least one of said rings, from 1 to about 3 heteroatoms independently selected from N, O, and S;

or any two R_3 and R_4 not attached to the same carbon are taken together to form an optionally substituted aryl ring; an optionally substituted, saturated or partially unsaturated carbocyclic ring of from 5 to 8 members; or an optionally substituted, saturated, partially unsaturated or aromatic heterocyclic ring of from 5 to 8 members that contains 1, 2, or 3 heteroatoms independently selected from N, O, and S; and

Ar_1 and Ar_2 are the same or different and independently represent optionally substituted cycloalkyl; an optionally substituted heterocycloalkyl ring of from 5 to 8 atoms that contains 1, 2 or 3 heteroatoms independently selected from N, O, and S; optionally substituted aryl having from 1 to 3 rings; or optionally substituted heteroaryl having from 1 to 3 rings, 5 to 8 ring members in each ring and, in at

least one of said rings, from 1 to about 3 heteroatoms independently selected from N, O and S, and

n is independently chosen at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2.

Claims 209-216 (cancelled)

Claim 217 (new) A method for treating neuropathic pain in a mammal, the method comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutic dose of a capsaicin receptor antagonist.

Claim 218 (new) A method according to claim 217, wherein the capsaicin receptor antagonist is a high potency capsaicin receptor antagonist in an *in vitro* assay of capsaicin receptor antagonism.

Claim 219 (new) A method according to claim 217, wherein the capsaicin receptor antagonist exhibits no detectable agonist activity in an *in vitro* assay of capsaicin receptor agonism.

Claim 220 (new) A method according to claim 217, where the pain is the result of exposure to capsaicin, exposure to heat, exposure to light, exposure to tear gas, hot peppers or pepper spray, or exposure to acid.

Claim 221 (new) A method according to claim 217 wherein the capsaicin receptor antagonist is not a capsaicin analogue.

Claim 222 (new) A method according to claim 217 wherein the neuropathic pain is associated with a condition selected from causalgia, neuritis, sciatic neuritis, peripheral neuritis, polyneuritis, optic neuritis, postfebrile neuritis, migrating neuritis, segmental neuritis, Gombault's neuritis, neuronitis,

neuralgias, postherpetic neuralgia, trigeminal neuralgia, cervicobrachial neuralgia, cranial neuralgia, geniculate neuralgia, glossopharyngial neuralgia, migranous neuralgia, idiopathic neuralgia, intercostals neuralgia, mammary neuralgia, mandibular joint neuralgia, Morton's neuralgia, nasociliary neuralgia, occipital neuralgia, red neuralgia, Sluder's neuralgia, splenopalatine neuralgia, supraorbital neuralgia, and vidian neuralgia.